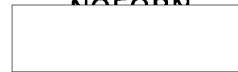


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PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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NPIC/IEG (12/83)

8 DECEMBER 1983

INCREASED SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ACTIVITY
CHANGONGO, ANGOLA (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: AN INCREASED LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY HAS BEEN OBSERVED SINCE MID-NOVEMBER AT THE SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT BASE AT CHANGONGO IN SOUTHERN ANGOLA. (SWN)

2. REMARKS: SINCE [] THE APPROXIMATELY 1,900-METER GRADED-EARTH RUNWAY AT CHANGONGO AIRFIELD HAS BEEN PARTIALLY SURFACED WITH PROBABLE ASPHALT, AND A PROBABLE SUPPORT AREA WAS BEING ESTABLISHED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE RUNWAY. IN ADDITION, SINCE [] AT LEAST 20 NET/CANVAS-COVERED VEHICLES AND PIECES OF EQUIPMENT (NOT ALL ON GRAPHIC) HAVE BEEN DISPERSED OFF THE NORTH END OF THE RUNWAY AND ADJACENT TO PARTIALLY DESTROYED BUILDINGS WITHIN THE TOWN OF CHANGONGO. (SWN)

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OTHER ADDITIONS TO THIS SOUTH AFRICAN BASE SINCE MID-NOVEMBER INCLUDED THE INSTALLATION OF A RADIO MAST ADJACENT TO THE DESTROYED FORMER PORTUGUESE FORT AND THE INSTALLATION OF TWO ADDITIONAL FUEL BLADDERS (FOR A TOTAL OF FOUR) AND A BERM AT THE HELICOPTER LANDING AREA (NOT ON GRAPHIC). THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE SPANNING THE CUNENE RIVER AT CHANGONGO (NOT ON GRAPHIC), WHICH THE SOUTH AFRICANS SEVERELY DAMAGED IN AUGUST 1981 AND SUBSEQUENTLY REPAIRED IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR, REMAINS SERVICEABLE. IN EARLY NOVEMBER, ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT SEEN NEAR THE BRIDGE WAS POSSIBLY ENGAGED IN CONDUCTING FURTHER REPAIRS TO THIS STRUCTURE. (SWN)

ANALYST'S COMMENTS--THIS RECENT INCREASE IN ACTIVITY AT CHANGONGO, ALONG WITH SIGHTINGS OF ACTIVITY AT SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR AIR AND GROUND INSTALLATIONS IN NORTHERN NAMIBIA DURING NOVEMBER, MAY INDICATE A FORTHCOMING OPERATION BY THE SOUTH AFRICANS IN SOUTHERN ANGOLA. IN NORTHERN NAMIBIA, CANBERRA AND POSSIBLE MIRAGE AIRCRAFT WERE SEEN AT ONDANGWA AIRFIELD [] IN THE PAST, CANBERRA HAVE STAGED FROM ONDANGWA AND CONDUCTED BOTH RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS AND AIRSTRIKES IN SOUTHERN ANGOLA. AN INCREASED TEMPO OF TRAINING HAS BEEN SEEN AT OSHIVELO MILITARY CAMP [] A FACILITY WHERE UNITS HAVE BEEN SEEN ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS EARLIER IN 1983 PREPARING FOR CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS.

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NPIC/IEG (12/83)

8 DECEMBER 1983

ANALYSIS OF RECENT SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN BOTH NORTHERN NAMIBIA AND SOUTHERN ANGOLA HAS BEEN SEVERELY HAMPERED BY FREQUENT AND HEAVY CLOUD-COVER RESULTING FROM THE ONSET OF THE RAINY SEASON DURING NOVEMBER. IN THE PAST, THE MAJORITY OF MAJOR OPERATIONS CONDUCTED BY SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES AGAINST GUERRILLAS OF THE SOUTHWEST AFRICAN PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION (SWAPO) HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED FROM JUNE TO EARLY SEPTEMBER DURING THE ZENITH OF THE DRY SEASON, AN EXCEPTION; HOWEVER, WAS "OPERATION DAISY" WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING NOVEMBER, 1981. (SWN) [REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 16-45-16S 014-58-05E (S)

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